

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8387

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FOR USIA DIRECTOR KEOGH FROM AMBASSADOR HABIB

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: WIRELESS FILE

REF: USIA 11628 CIRCULAR

1. THE WIRELESS FILE IS IMPORTANT TO ME AND TO ALL SECTIONS OF THE EMBASSY AS A FAST AND RELIABLE SOURCE OF SPEECH AND POLICY STATEMENT TEXTS. THE SPEED OF THE WF IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN KEEPING OURSELVES, KOREAN GOVT OFFICIALS, AND FRIENDLY DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS INFORMED ON WHAT OUR LEADERS ARE SAYING. IF THE WF WERE DISCONTINUED, THIS ASPECT WOULD HAVE TO BE PROVIDED BY SOME OTHER MEANS. IT IS NECESSARY TO OUR OPERATION HERE.

2. NEXT IN ORDER OF BROAD, GENERAL USEFULNESS IS THE BACK- OF-THE- BOOK MATERIAL -- THE NEWS ROUNDUPS AND REACTION TO ASIAN DEVELOPMENTS. THIS PROMPT COVERAGE OF THE EDITORIAL COMMENT AND PUBLIC OPINION ATMOSPHERE GIVES US THE PERSPECTIVE FOR AN ACCURATE INTERPRETATION OF U. S. PROGRAMS AND POLICIES. THE AREA- WIDE SCOPE OF THIS SECTION ALSO HELPS TO KEEP US INFORMED AND COMPENSATES TO AN IMPORTANT DEGREE FOR THE SKIMPY COVERAGE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESS IN SEOUL.

3. THE INTERPRETIVE ARTICLES ARE OF LESS GENERAL USEFULNESS,
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BUT ARE IMPORTANT TO USIS IN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE MEDIA.
BACKGROUND AND COMMENTARY MATERIAL IS OF SUCH HIGH QUALITY
THAT TWO LOCAL NEWS AGENCIES, ONE DEALING EXCLUSIVELY WITH
TRADE MATTERS AND THE OTHER WITH GENERAL NEWS, FREQUENTLY
DISTRIBUTE THEM TO THEIR CLIENTS.

4. IN SUMMARY, DISCONTINUANCE OF THE FILE WOULD DEPRIVE US
OF A BASIC INFORMATIONAL TOOL, UTILIZED TO DIFFERING DEGREES,
BUT IMPORTANT TO ALL SECTIONS OF THE MISSION.
HABIB

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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